

Manchester Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 7th 2005
6:25—9:30 P.M.

Location: City Hall

Commissioners Present: Michael Poisson (Chairman), Jen Drociak, Kathleen Neville, Eric Skoglund, Marty Gavin

Commissioners Absent: Todd Connors, JoAnn O'Shaughnessey

Others Present: Pat Mattson, Jon O'Rourke, Mike Woitkowski, Chris Hanley, Donna Boutin, Peter Kaszyk

Submitted By: Marty Gavin

~ Next Meeting @ 6:15 on Tuesday, February 22nd ~

Agenda

I. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes from the January 18th meeting were reviewed and accepted.

II. Treasurer's Report

No report given

III. Old Business

- West: Jen recently contacted the City Clerks office about scheduling this presentation, they agreed on March 16th. Mike spoke with Mark West and Mark told him that he would need at least an hour. Also Mike said that MCTV would be available around 7:00 that night. We should try to get invitations out by Tuesday, March 1st. If we have any ideas for the presentation we should get in touch with Mark as soon as possible.
- Secretarial Position: Jonathan O'Rourke came to our meeting to discuss the possibility of taking over as our secretary. Jon has a degree in Environmental planning and is currently set up as a vendor with City. Jon will submit his invoices to Judy Heminger, who will deduct his payroll from our line items. The Commission informed Jon of the duties that he would be responsible for (meeting minutes, filing, etc.). Jon mentioned that he works with Robin Provencher who works directly with the City's web site and that he could probably get our minutes on line. Marty will work with Jon and bring him up to date.
- All dogs gym: According to Mike, they have been administering water quality tests and that we will know more by next Spring.

- Conservation Easements: Marty will put together a brief job description of what we would like done at our easements, so that the Manchester Highway Dept. will be prepared when they come in to discuss this matter with us.
- Rails to Trails: Craig Wood and Mike Hanson of Louis Berger Co. came in a couple of meetings ago to discuss this trail way that will start at Goffsfalls Rd. and continuing on past Gold St., all the way to Shaws. They intend on creating a 12 ft. wide paved trail that will include a 50—100 ft. right of way and result in an impact of 19,000 sq. ft. of poorly created wetlands. The trail will be gated at both ends and may include lighting, depending on the budget. There are no mitigation plans, due to the nature of this project, however the drainage in this area will be addressed. A site walk at this location has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 29th at 9:00 A.M.
- Storm Water Ordinance: Kathleen forwarded members of the Conservation Commission copies of this ordinance. If anyone would like to add anything, he is open for suggestions.
- Bass Island: Rob Robinson sent Kathleen updated plans for this project, which she forwarded to members of the Commission. According to her Rob said that the cost has gone up approximately \$80,000 dollars. This amount may be difficult to obtain due to a depleted SEPP budget. The amount of funding for this project will depend on what happens to the other side of the Island, including the Blacksmith shop, which Jane has arranged to use \$100,000 on. Jane will attend a hearing on this matter some time in March.
- Dan Bishop: Donna and Peter came in to discuss the project at their home on 1385 Front Street. Due to the present condition of the wall and water levels, they expressed their concern of having this done as soon as possible. This discussion stems from an incomplete permit application the Commission received from Mr. Bishop that was first reviewed at our December 6th meeting. Since that initial correspondence the Commission has made several attempts to assist this contractor, however the paperwork is still insufficient. In addition to repairing the wall the couple mentioned that they would like to install a concrete ramp so they could access the waterway. They said that they might as well look into building this ramp, because they were planning on building a temporary ramp already, so the contractor could access the wall (which was news to us and may require an additional permit). If this aspect of the project is not permissible at this time, they would be willing to forego those plans and just concentrate on the wall, however a wetland impact permit may still be needed, due to the temporary ramp. Jen said that the Permit by Notification may be suitable

for temporary impact and that we should look into it. Mike asked about their excavation plans and told them that they need to be more specific in terms of the material that will be used, how far from the wall will the material go, how deep they plan on going, et cetera. Donna said that they plan on replacing all the unsightly junk with erosion stone and she will get us detailed plans. The Commission added that we would like to see erosion control (silt fence, coffer dams) on the plans as well. Eric recommended that they do the work in August, when the water level is lower and suggested that we schedule a site walk at this location. Also Eric and Mike expressed different views on who is considered an abutter. This will be discussed again once all the facts are straight. Pat Mattson mentioned the eagles in this area, and Kathleen added that there has been an influx of 17 or more eagles to the local population.

- St. Pius Church: Early last November, Marty received a report from a concerned resident that there was a wetland being filled at this location. It turns out that the wetland was manmade for the purpose of an ice skating rink and the church was going to fill in the low spots. Due to the skating rink taking on wetland characteristics, the church would now need a permit to do this project, which they didn't have. The project has been put on hold until next year. Meanwhile, Marty and a representative for the church continue to keep in contact, and the Commission welcomes all concerned parties to attend any of our meetings. There have been recent reports of the rink being used, however the piles of fill remain in place.

IV. New Business

- 489 Stark Lane: Mr. and Mrs. John Cote are planning to tear down their residence on Stark Lane and build another one six inches closer to the road. According to Mike they have already received a variance for this project. Jen mentioned that they are requesting a waiver from the shore land protection, but if they are building within the shore land protected area they may need to maintain the same footprint. Mike said that we do not have to sign off on this project, and that they pretty much just wanted our comments. The Commission thinks that before we make any comments, we should have a site-walk and invite someone from the State's Shore Land Protection Division.
- Chris Hanley and Mike Woitkowski: Chris asked if anyone could direct her to somebody involved with the Clean Water Act. She has several concerns with sewage water that is being discharged into the Piscataquog River and according to her Goffstown keeps seeking extensions from the CWA. The Commission recommended contacting Culis Adams from the State as well as the Piscataquog River Watershed Council. Chris said that the River Council seems to focus their sampling stations further up North. Jen suggested that they should look into setting up sampling stations

closer to the areas of most concern. Also, they asked about joining the Commission or helping out in any way possible and mentioned their interest with the Rails to Trails Organization. The Commission will keep them posted and look into some ways to get them involved, maybe even alternate positions.

- Arts update: See the 2/7/05 Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program update. The topics discussed were the Black Brook Restoration Proposal, PIPES, Nutts Pond Projects, CEI, Pond Clean ups, and For Manchester.

V. Mail & other incoming information

- Furniture World on South Porter Street update.
- Rails to Trails project update.